MARVEL COMICS
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
. . . AS HIS PAST BEGINS TO CATCH UP WITH HIM!
PLUS 3 MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES!
$1.25 US
$1.75 CAN
51
UK 65p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
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MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

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WOLVERINE ..... Page 1

The Wilding
Part 1 of 3
"FACE-OFF"

The X-Men are missing and Wolverine—the mysterious mutant with a healing factor and an unbreakable adamantium skeleton—is on his own. And now, his past is about to catch up with him . . .

Writer — ROB LIEFELD
Penciler — ROB LIEFELD
Inker — ROB LIEFELD
Letterer — JADE MOEDE
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

COMET MAN ..... Page 9

A Family Affair
Part 2 of 4
"BAD BLOOD"

Stephen Beckley, known as the Comet Man, and his alien mentor Max, have left their Fortisquian starship on the dark side of the moon and returned to Earth. Max is on the west coast of the continental United States studying human behavior, and Stephen is searching for his son, Benny, who was left in the care of Beckley's sister and brother-in-law. He's about to find more than he bargained for . . .

Writers — BILL MUMY/MIGUEL FERRER
Penciler — KELLY JONES
Inker — GERRY TALAOC
Letterer — AGUSTIN MAS
Colorist — JOHN WILCOX

IRON MAN ..... Page 17

"THE OTHER WAY OUT"

Tony Stark is the genius behind Stark Enterprises, a world leader in advanced technology. As the creator (and wearer) of the Iron Man armor, he is a founding member of the super team The Avengers, and one of the most powerful super heroes in the Marvel Universe. His invincible armor enables him to perform technological miracles, using advanced electromagnetics to move nearly any object, repulsor rays to blast through any barrier and many other incredible inventions to meet every need.

Writer — STEVE SAFFEL
Penciler — MARK BRIGHT
Inker — DON HECK
Letterer — JIM MASSARA
Colorist — HEIDI GOODHUE

Le PEREGRINE ..... Page 25

"THE STRAIGHT APPROACH"

He is a mercenary in the cause of justice. He believes in doing what's right, but he also believes in paying the bills! Currently working for Silver Sable International, Le Peregrine dons a flight suit and works with the most sophisticated technology available to complete his assignments—no matter how dangerous, or how questionable!

Writer — FABIAN NICIEZA
Penciler — DON HECK
Inker — RANDY EMBERLIN
Letterer — JOHN MORELLI
Colorist — STEVE MATTSSON

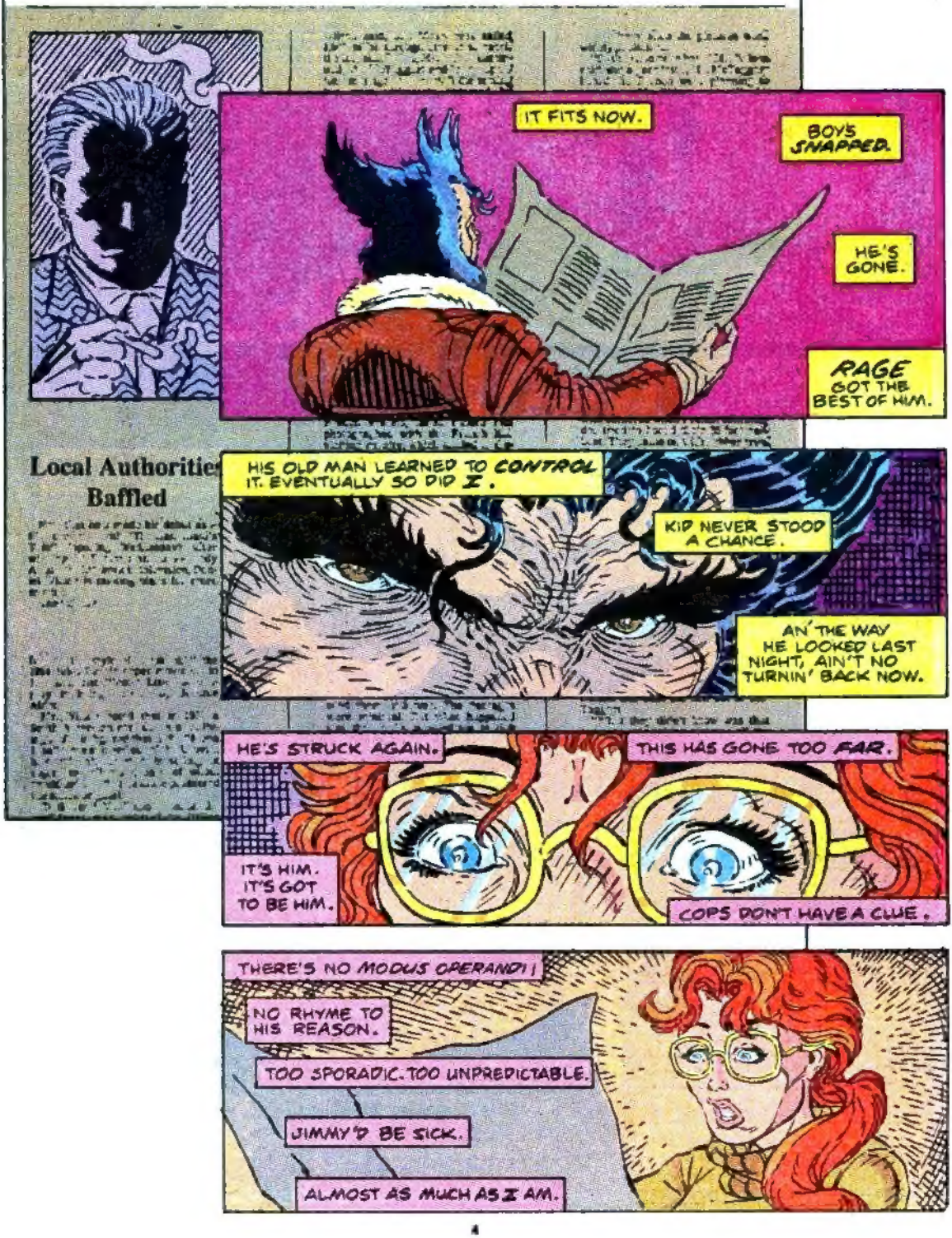
MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™ Vol. 1, No. 51, 1990. (ISSN# 1044-7180) Published by MARVEL COMICS. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published biweekly. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.25 per copy in the U.S. and $1.75 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $15.00; Canada $20.00; and foreign $27.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, c/o MARVEL COMICS, SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

I'M WOLVERINE
MIGHT'VE HEARD OF ME.
Y'KNOW, THE BEST THERE IS AT WHAT I DO. YUP, THAT'S ME.
TONIGHT, THAT MEANS DRINKING.
I'M HAMMERED. SLOSHED. FLAT OUT DRUNK.
NEVER FELT BETTER.
GOOD TO SEE THAT SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE.
Y'SEE, THIS HERE IS MY OLD STOMPING GROUNDS. OTTAWA, CANADA. CALLED THESE PARTS HOME FOR MANY YEARS.
ONE O' MY MANY HOMES.
NICE CHANGE O' PACE FROM THE SHORES OF MADRIPOOR...
GEEZ. FOG SURE IS THICK. GOOD THING I'M NOT BEHIND THE WHEEL.
IN MY PRESENT CONDITION...
...FOG...
...LIQUOR...
...DRIVING--
--LETHAL COMBINATION.
THE WILDING
PART 1
"FACE OFF"

SPOOKY NIGHT.
CREEPY.
WHAT THE FLAMIN'--?!
SPEAK O' THE DEVIL...
...LITERALLY.
KINDA NIGHT YOU WATCH YOUR BACK A LITTLE CLOSER...
...KINDA NIGHT YOU THINK TWICE 'BOUT LETTIN' YOUR GUARD DOWN--
--NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT LEAP OUT FROM THE SHADOWS.
WHEW! THIS GUY'S GOT A STENCH ABOUT HIM!

NUH? HE'S TAKIN' OFF?
WELL, LOGAN, WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
GET UP?
GO AFTER HIM?
QUIT KIDDIN' YOURSELF, LOGAN. IN YOUR PRESENT CONDITION, YOU CAN BARELY WALK.
HECK, YOU CAN BARELY THINK.
HEALIN' FACTOR'S JUST STARTIN' TO TAKE EFFECT ON THE BOOZE. EVEN AT ACCELERATED SPEED, IT'LL TAKE TOO LONG.
PHEW! THAT SMELL!
THAT STENCH!
ONLY ONE MAN I EVER MET SMELLED THAT ROTTEN...
...AND THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
MAKES SENSE THAT HE'D BE IN TOWN.
MAKES SENSE HE STILL STINKS.
WHAT DON'T FIT IS WHAT THE HECK HE'S DOIN'?!

STALKER KILLS 9TH VICTIM BODY COUNT CLIMBS


IT FITS NOW.
BOY'S SNAPPED.
HE'S GONE.
RAGE GOT THE BEST OF HIM.
Local Authorities Baffled
HIS OLD MAN LEARNED TO CONTROL IT. EVENTUALLY SO DID I.
KID NEVER STOOD A CHANCE.
AN' THE WAY HE LOOKED LAST NIGHT, AIN'T NO TURNIN' BACK NOW.
HE'S STRUCK AGAIN.
THIS HAS GONE TOO FAR.
IT'S HIM. IT'S GOT TO BE HIM.
COPS DON'T HAVE A CLUE.
THERE'S NO MODUS OPERANDI!
NO RHYME TO HIS REASON.
TOO SPORADIC. TOO UNPREDICTABLE.
JIMMY'D BE SICK.
ALMOST AS MUCH AS I AM.

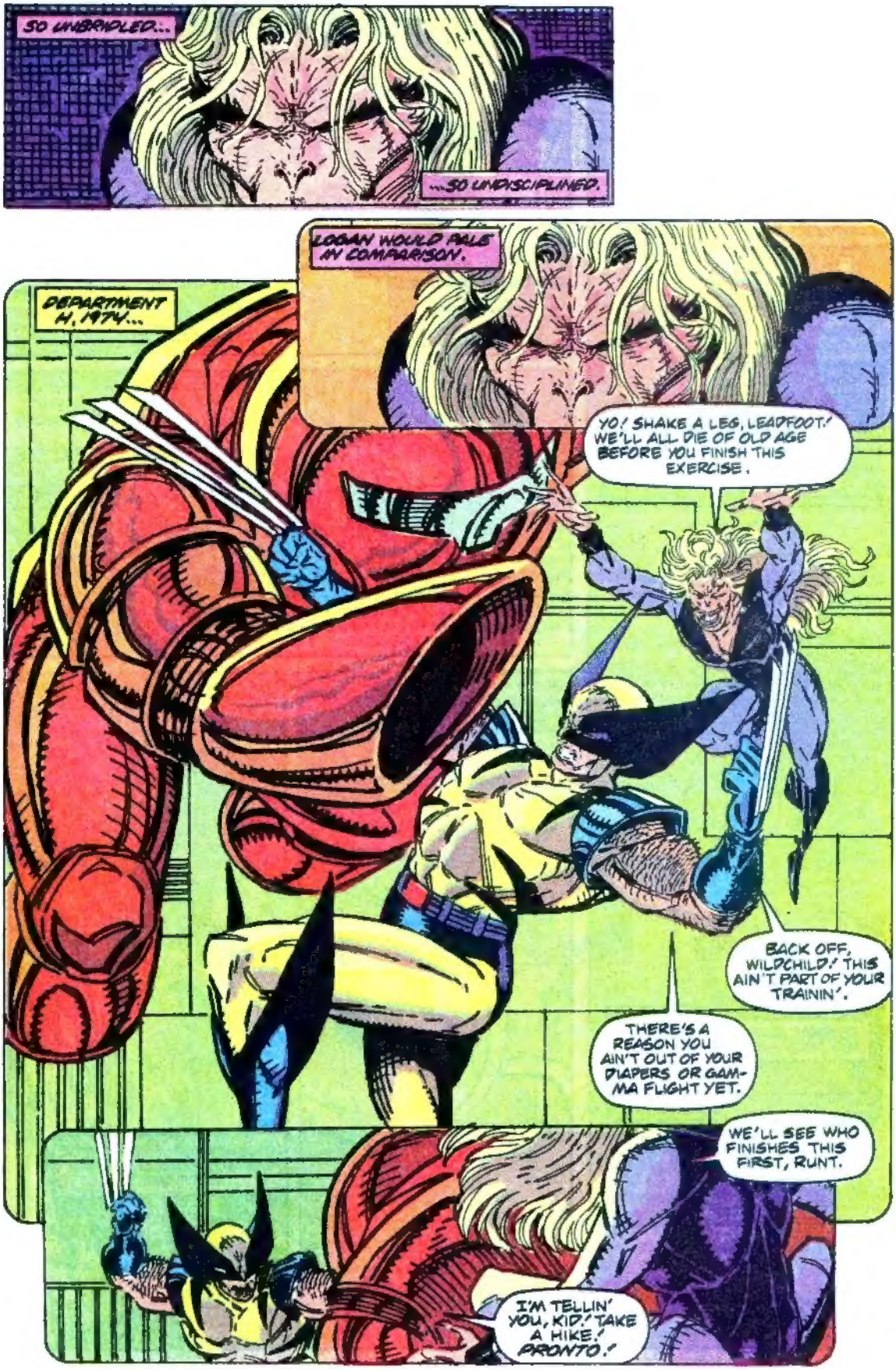
JIMMY HAD SUCH HIGH HOPES FOR HIS DREAM.
ALPHA FLIGHT.
GAMMA FLIGHT.
BETA FLIGHT.
HE WAS WARNED COUNTLESS TIMES.
ESPECIALLY ABOUT WILDCHILD.
LOGAN WAS STRONGEST IN VOICING HIS MISGIVINGS.

CONSIDER THE SOURCE.
STILL JIMMY DIDN'T LISTEN. INSISTED HE COULD BE TRAINED, INSISTED HE'D COME AROUND.

THERE THEY ARE, BETA FLIGHT. DIAMOND LIL, FLASHBACK, ALEC, ALL OF THEM.
IF ONLY JIM HAD KNOWN THAT THEY'D ALL TURN ON HIM. UNITE TO DESTROY THE DREAM.

EVENTUALLY THEY WERE DEFEATED...
...AT THE COST OF MY HUSBAND'S LIFE.
WE ROUNDED THEM UP. THEY WERE TRIED AND SENT TO PRISON.

OF COURSE WE WOULDN'T HEAR THE LAST OF YOU, WOULD WE?
BUT THAT WAS MONTHS AGO.
WILDCHILD -- NO OTHER NAME COULD SUIT YOU BETTER.


SO UNBRIDLED...
...SO UNDISCIPLINED.
LOGAN WOULD PALE IN COMPARISON.
DEPARTMENT H, 1974...
YO! SHAKE A LEG, LEADFOOT! WE'LL ALL DIE OF OLD AGE BEFORE YOU FINISH THIS EXERCISE.
BACK OFF, WILDCHILD! THIS AIN'T PART OF YOUR TRAININ'.
THERE'S A REASON YOU AIN'T OUT OF YOUR DIAPERS OR GAMMA FLIGHT YET.
WE'LL SEE WHO FINISHES THIS FIRST, RUNT.
I'M TELLIN' YOU, KID! TAKE A HIKE! PRONTO!

LOOKS LIKE YOU GO TO THE HEAD OF THE CLASS, KID.'
YEEEEEOW.!
FWOOSH
THIS EXERCISE AIN'T ABOUT STRENGTH, KID. IT'S ABOUT WIT.
THE FACTS ARE THAT NEITHER OF US ON OUR BEST DAY COULD OVER-POWER THIS SUCKER.!
BUT WITH SPEED, AND CUNNING AND A BIT O' INSTINCT, WE CAN REACH THE HIDDEN MECHANISM.
... THAT'LL EFFECTIVELY SHUT HUDSON'S BUCKET O' BOLTS DOWN.
THANKS FOR THE TIPS, RUNT. NOT THAT I'LL BE NEEDIN' THEM.
LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT, SON...
YOU EVER PULL A STUNT LIKE THAT AGAIN AN' I'LL TAKE YOU DOWN SO FAST YOUR HEAD WILL SPIN.'
YOU GOT ME SHAKIN' IN MY BOOTS, PIPSQUEAK.
I'M TELLING YOU, KID-- THERE ARE SOME MISTAKES IN LIFE THAT YOU CAN BOUNCE BACK FROM...
... THIS AIN'T ONE OF 'EM.' YOU'VE HAD FAIR WARNING, PUNK. NEXT MOVE'S UP TO YOU.
NEWS FLASH, RUNT. YOU DON'T SCARE ME. YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER LITTLE GUY WITH A CHIP ON HIS SHOULDER.
HAVE IT YOUR WAY...
WE'LL TANGLE, WOLVERINE. SOONER OR LATER, WE'LL TANGLE. BET ON IT.'
"I GUESS NO ONE EVER TOLD YOU, KID..."

"...BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR..."
SNIKT
"...YOU JUST MIGHT GET IT!"
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE--
SHOWDOWN!

THE COMET MAN IN: A FAMILY AFFAIR

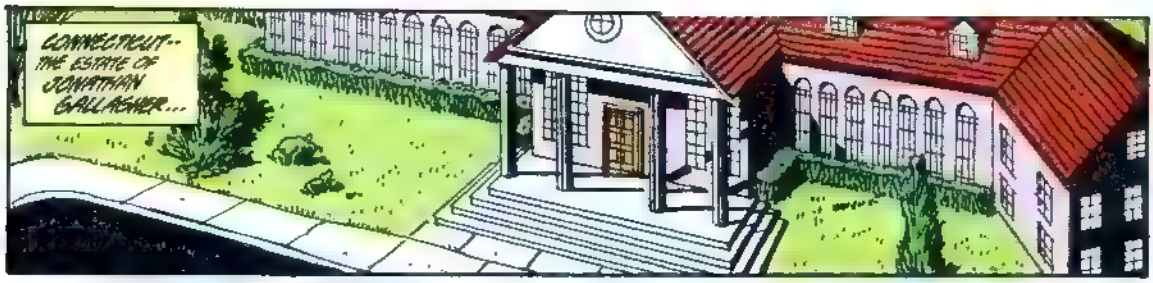
CHAPTER TWO BAD BLOOD!

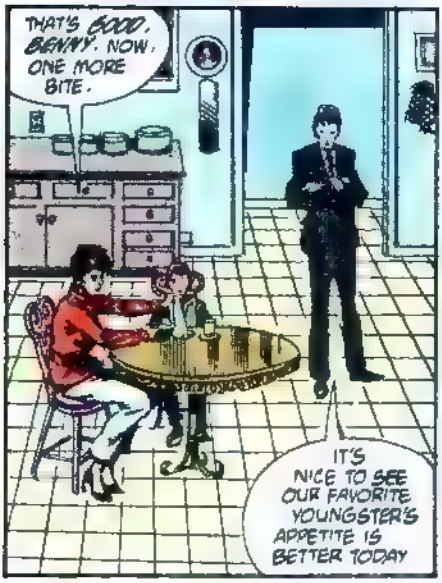
I DON'T BELIEVE IT-- COO!' YOU ALMOST KILLED THAT CHILD ' IF I HADN'T --
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?'
STEPHEN... YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE... WE THOUGHT YOU WERE... DEAD!

WELL, IT'S A LONG STORY, BROTHER-IN-LAW, AND NOT A PRETTY ONE...
...I'LL FILL YOU IN ON THE GORY DETAILS LATER.
BUT RIGHT NOW ALL I WANT TO DO IS SEE MY SON' ARE ROSEMARY AND BENNY IN THE HOUSE?
NO...
THEY UH...THEY'RE GONE YOUR SISTER DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE. Y'SEE, OUR MARRIAGE IS OVER
&CHOKE&
AFTER YOU DIED --UH, LEFT, BENNY'S CONDITION GOT WORSE. THEN THE DOCTOR BILLS STARTED POURIN' IN.
HE NEEDED SPECIALISTS. HE WAS LIKE CATATONIC, THEY SAID--BUT SOMETHIN' DIFFERENT..
...AND, I DON'T KNOW, I GUESS I WASN'T CUT OUT TO BE A FATHER.
I WAS DOIN' SOME DRINKIN'--TOO MUCH ROSEMARY SAID--WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT SHE SAID.
SHE'S GONE...SIX MONTHS NOW
ONE MORE TIME I'VE SCREWED UP THE LIVES OF PEOPLE I LOVE!
LOU, I'M SO SORRY...
YOU'RE SORRY?! I'D DO ANYTHING TO GET HER BACK! I LOVE THAT GIRL, STEPHEN!
BUT I BLEW IT BIG TIME, AND NOW IT SEEMS SHE'S TAKEN UP WITH SOME OTHER GUY
LOU, I HAVE TO FIND MY SON. I'LL TALK TO ROSEMARY, TELL HER HOW YOU FEEL
MAYBE--I DON'T KNOW, BUT MAYBE IF YOU CAN PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, SHE'LL COME BACK TO YOU.
EVERY NIGHT I PRAY TO GOD THAT SHE WILL. I'M NOTHIN' WITHOUT HER
SHE'S LIVING WITH SOME RICH DUDE IN CONNECTICUT. C'MON, I GOT THE ADDRESS INSIDE...
KKKOOOKK!
SOON...
TELL HER I LOVE HER STEPHEN! TELL HER--
YOU JUST KEEP YOUR WORD, LOU NO MORE DRINKING!

MEANWHILE, IN LOS ANGELES...
I HOPE I SEE SOME MOVIE STARS! MAYBE I SHOULD'VE BOUGHT THAT MAP TO THEIR HOMES.
OBVIOUSLY, I'M GOING TO NEED SOME MONEY...
SAY, JUMPSUIT! HOLD IT A MINUTE, BUB. WHERE YOU THINK YOU'RE WALKIN' TO?
EXCUSE ME?
THIS'S A PRIVATE STREET, MAN, AND YOU BE TRESSPASSIN'. GONNA HAVE TO PAY A TOLL.
NO, I DON'T THINK WE CAN EXCUSE YOU
I HAVE SEEN SOME NASTY LOOKIN' WHITE BOYS BUT YOU GOTTA BE THE NASTIEST AND THE WHITEST!
C'MON, MAN, GIVE UP YOUR WALLET
I DON'T HAVE ONE.
WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT
YEAH, LET'S KICK THIS DUDE'S UGLY BUTT!
I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA...
...LET'S SEE YOU KICK EACH OTHER'S BUTTS!
HOLY--!
HEY-- MY HEAD! THERE'S SOMEBODY IN MY HEAD, MAN!
YUP.
WHOK
OWW!
SAY, BUB, TAKE IT EASY!
OWCH!
POW
I CAN'T HELP IT! HE'S MAKIN' ME DO IT!

SHOW ME WHAT ELSE YOU WERE GOING TO DO TO ME, GENTLEMEN
UNK
COME ON-- LIKE JANIS SAID-- "TARRYYYY... JUST A LITTLE BIT HARDER!"
ROKT
KLUNTCH!
NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!
POOM BASH KAPOW POOF
WELL, FELLAS, I BELIEVE YOU'RE ABOUT TO HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART LISTEN TO MY VOICE!
DON'T YOU SEE THAT VIOLENCE IS NOT THE ANSWER TO YOUR PROBLEM?
YOU DO UNDERSTAND THAT NOW, DON'T YOU?
...MY HEAD...
...I FEEL SO WEIRD!
YEAH... VIOLENCE IS LAME...
UH HUH... I UNDERSTAND NOW...
GOOD. NOW GIVE ME YOUR MONEY!


CONNECTICUT--
THE ESTATE OF
JONATHAN
GALLAGHER...


THAT'S GOOD, BENNY. NOW, ONE MORE BITE.
IT'S NICE TO SEE OUR FAVORITE YOUNGSTER'S APPETITE IS BETTER TODAY

PERHAPS THE NEW TREATMENTS ARE WORKING, ROSEMARY. HE DOES SEEM TO BE IMPROVING.

EXCUSE ME SOMEONE TO SEE YOU IN THE FOYER, MA'AM
OH, THANK YOU, RICHARD

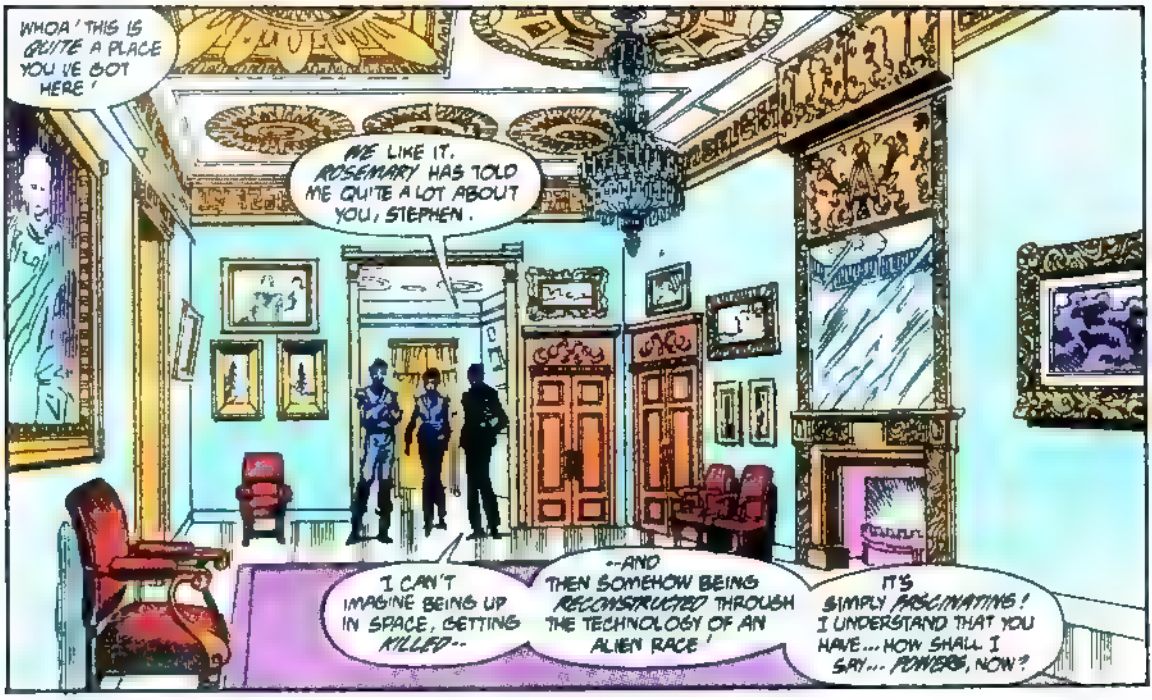
HELLO, WHAT CAN I...

...DO...
...STEPHEN?

STEPHEN!
HI, SIS. LONG TIME NO SEE.

OH, STEPHEN-- YOU'RE ALIVE!
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN..

BENNY!
COME HERE, SON!
LET ME LOOK AT YOU! WOW YOU'VE GROWN A LOT!
I'M SO SORRY, SON...FOR ALL THAT'S HAPPENED BUT THINGS WILL BE BETTER NOW--I PROMISE!
UMM--STEPHEN, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET A VERY SPECIAL... FRIEND. THIS IS JONATHAN GALLAGHER.
MY LORD! IT'S HIM!
WELL, THIS IS A SURPRISE. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, DR. BECKLEY.
PLEASE, MAKE THAT STEPHEN! HOW CAN I THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER ROSEMARY AND MY SON?
I COULD DO NO LESS. I LOVE THEM AS IF THEY WERE MY OWN.
GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO WAIT. I COULDN'T HAVE PLANNED THIS BETTER MYSELF


WHOA! THIS IS QUITE A PLACE YOU'VE GOT HERE!
ME LIKE IT. ROSEMARY HAS TOLD ME QUITE A LOT ABOUT YOU, STEPHEN.
I CAN'T IMAGINE BEING UP IN SPACE, GETTING KILLED--
--AND THEN SOMEHOW BEING RECONSTRUCTED THROUGH THE TECHNOLOGY OF AN ALIEN RACE!
IT'S SIMPLY FASCINATING! I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE... HOW SHALL I SAY... POWERS, NOW?

OH, YEAH I GOT POWERS. ALL RIGHT LET ME TELL YOU WHAT "GREAT" THINGS THOSE POWERS HAVE DONE FOR MY LIFE..
FIRST OF ALL, MY WIFE WAS KILLED!
THEN MY SON WAS TORTURED AND USED AS A GUINEA PIG--
--IN SOME HORRIBLE EXPERIMENT STRAIGHT OUT OF FRANKENSTEIN!
A BUNCH OF MANIACS PLAYING SECRET AGENT MAN-- CALLED THE BRIDGE-- DRUGGED ME, SHOT ME, FOLLOWED ME BACK INTO SPACE
.. THEN BLEW UP THE SHIP I WAS ON!
EVERYONE I KNOW OR CARE ABOUT THINKS I'M DEAD!

AND, I'VE GOT A BROTHER-- THE SELF-STYLED SUPERIOR-- I'VE NEVER SEEN WHO'S BEHIND THE WHOLE THING...
... BECAUSE ME WANTS MY POWERS!
BELIEVE ME, I'LL FIND HIM! AND WHEN I DO, I'LL GIVE HIM MY POWERS, ALL RIGHT!

STEPHEN, CALM DOWN. WE'RE NOT YOUR ENEMIES JONATHAN AND I... WE'RE YOUR FAMILY.
I... I KNOW, SIS...
WHAT DID THAT ALIEN DO TO HIS MIND? WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A BROTHER.

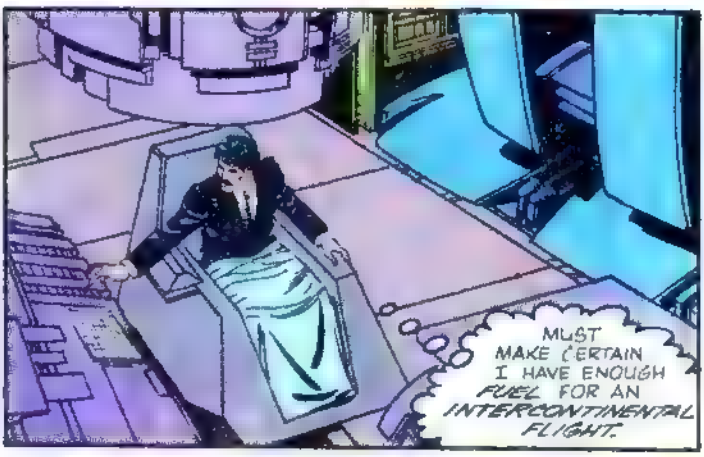
LOOK STEPHEN, YOU'VE BEEN UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE FOR A LONG TIME.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY IMMEDIATE PLANS, WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE WITH US?
OH, YES! PLEASE DO, STEVIE!
WELL I DON'T KNOW, I--
IT'S SETTLED THEN YOU'LL STAY
LATER, IN JONATHAN GALLAGHER'S PRIVATE STUDY...
BON APETITE, MY PET
SHRRIEEEEEEEEEE
THIS IS THE SUPERIOR. NO, YOU HEARD RIGHT.
TELL HIM I'VE GOT URGENT BUSINESS TO DISCUSS. IT CANNOT WAIT
YES, HELLO, SIR I MUST HAVE THAT FUNDING WE DISCUSSED TO REOPEN THE BRIDGE IMMEDIATELY!
I HAVE THE BOY AND DR BECKLEY... YES. HERE WITH ME NOW!
WELL, THEN, JUST THE GENETICS LAB, SIR! I GUARANTEE--
YES I SEE BUT... CUTBACKS RIGHT... GOODBYE
SO IT'S JUST YOU AND ME NOW, BROTHER
SCHM
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

A BLISSFULLY QUIET JUNE MORNING AT STARK ENTERPRISES CALIFORNIA HEADQUARTERS...
--COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT RELEASED THE NAMES OF TWELVE MORE PRISONERS...
...TO BE EXECUTED TODAY FOR THEIR PART IN THE PRO-DEMOCRACY DEMONSTRATIONS. OFFICIALS STATED--
GOOD LORD... NO!
the OTHER WAY OUT
FEATURING
IRON MAN

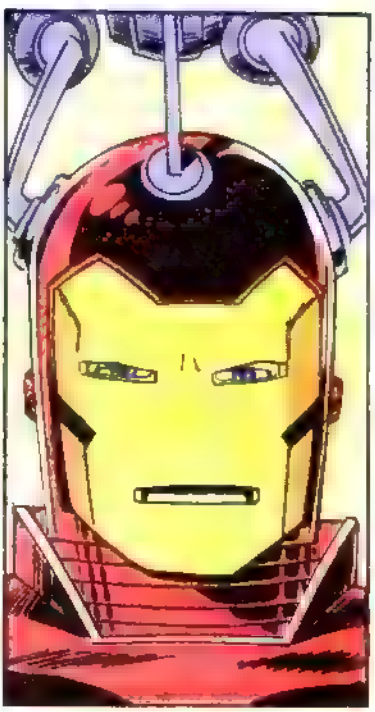
MRS. ARBOGAST, PLEASE CANCEL ALL OF MY APPOINTMENTS. I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN TO RESCHEDULE THEM.

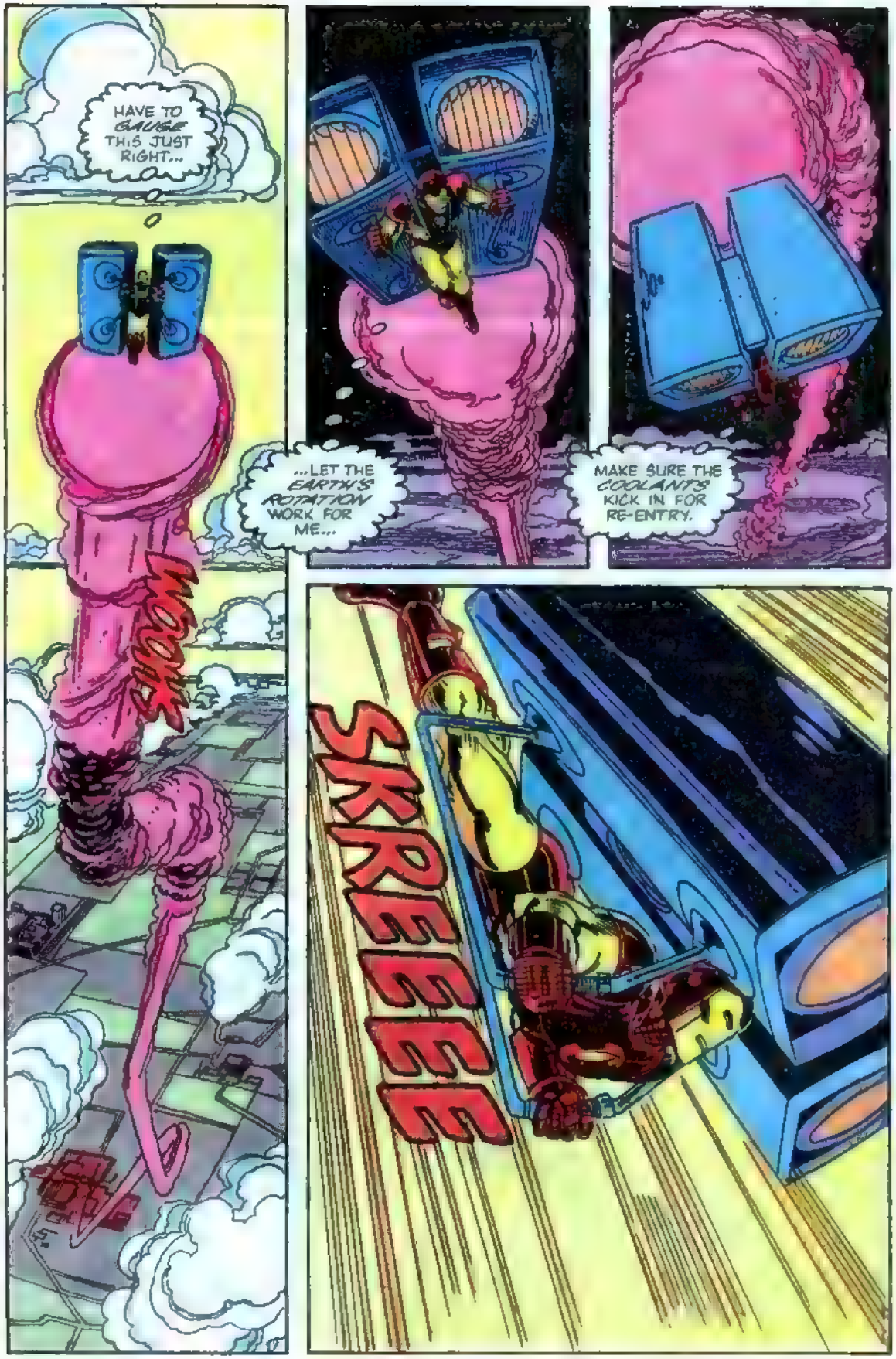
DRAT. MR. TRUMP ISN'T GOING TO LIKE BEING PUT OFF AGA N.

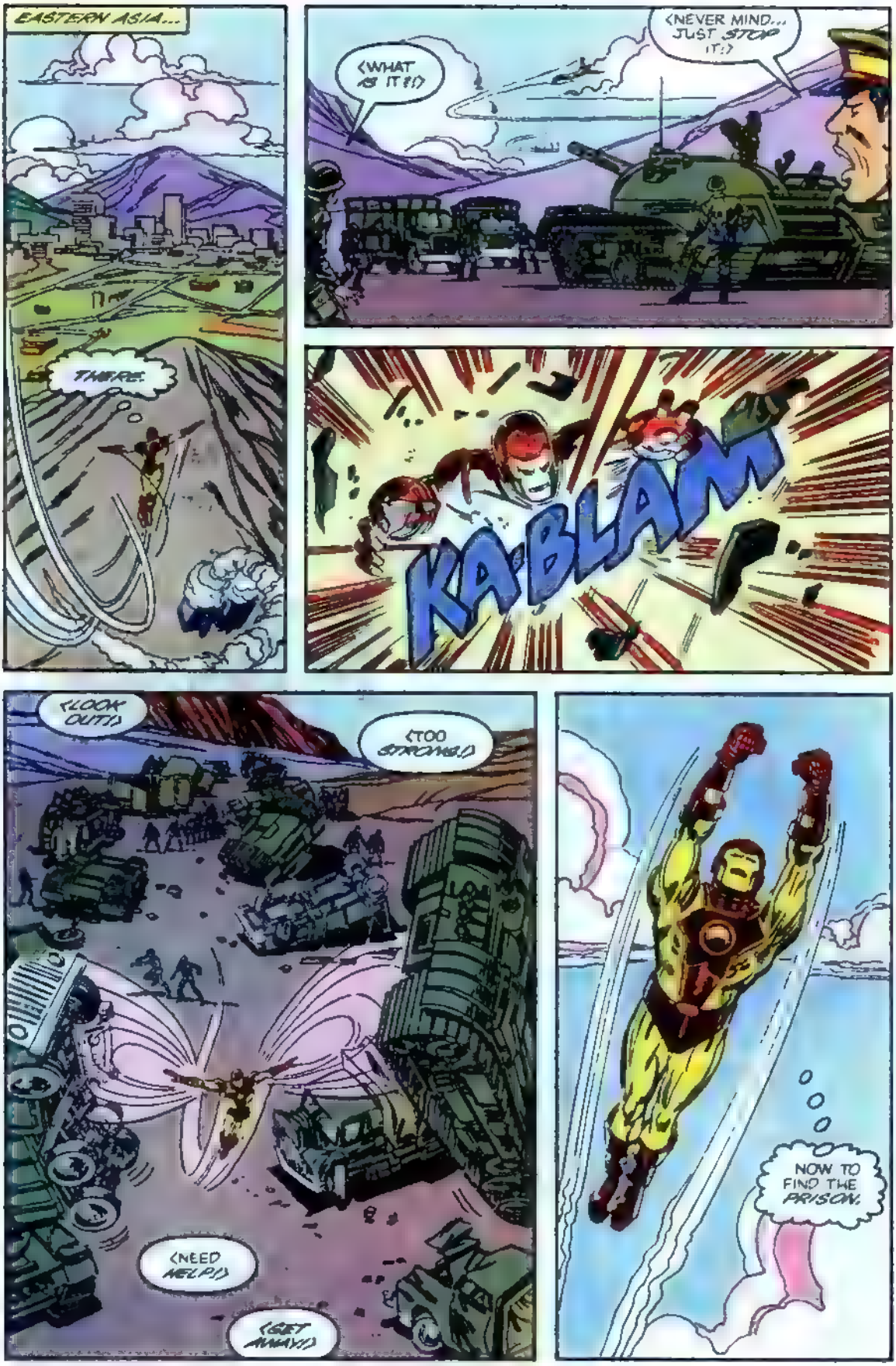
MOMENTS LATER IN A TOP SECRET LABORATORY FAR BELOW...


MUST MAKE CERTAIN I HAVE ENOUGH FUEL FOR AN INTERCONTINENTAL FLIGHT.

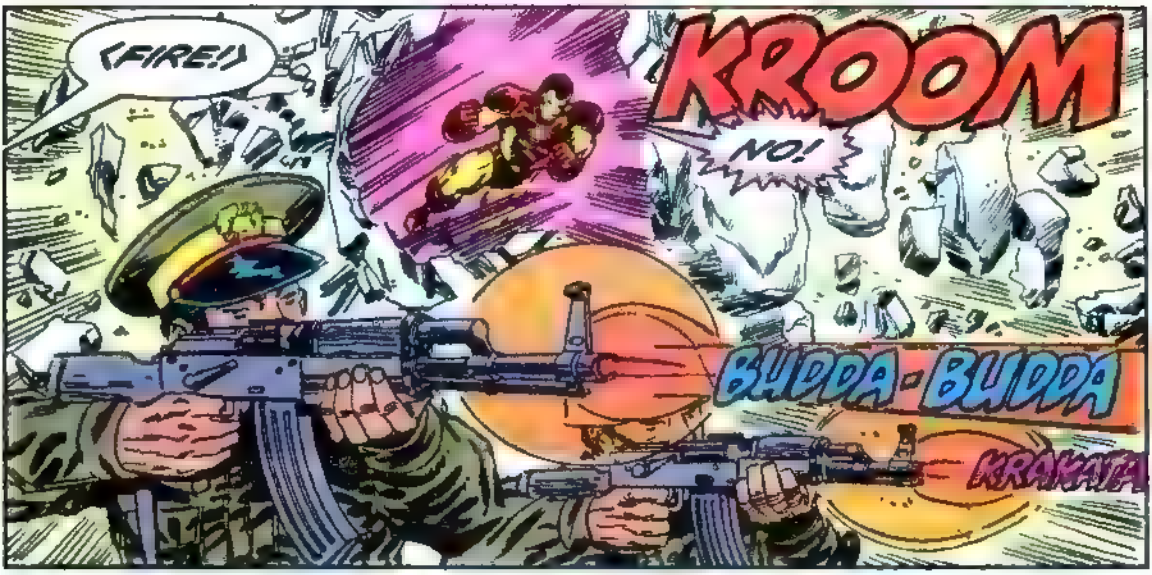
NOW.



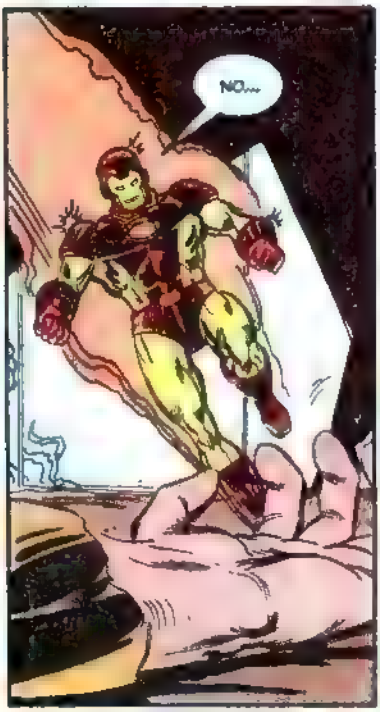

HAVE TO CAUSE THIS JUST RIGHT...
...LET THE EARTH'S ROTATION WORK FOR ME...
MAKE SURE THE COOLANT'S KICK IN FOR RE-ENTRY.
WOOSH
SKREEEE

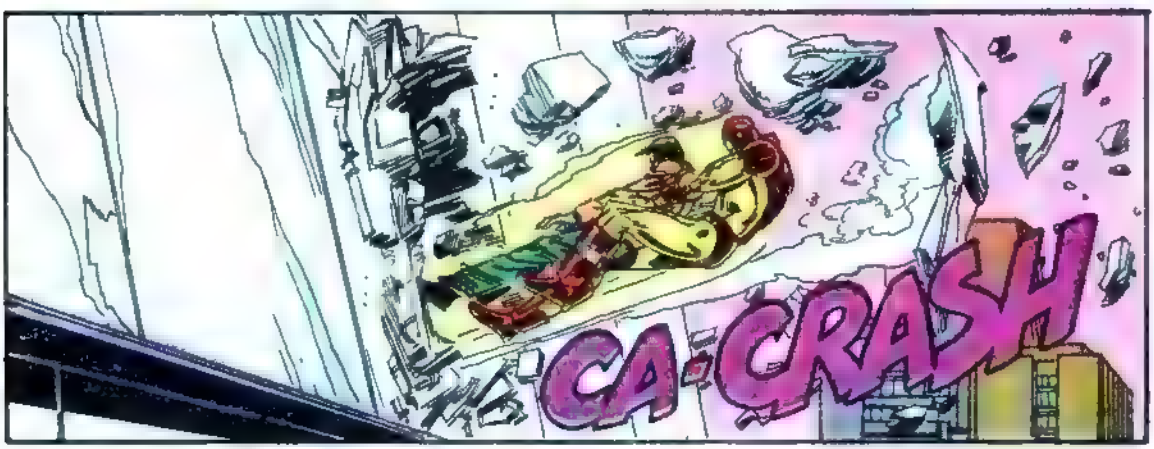

EASTERN ASIA...
THERE.
(WHAT IS IT?!)
(NEVER MIND... JUST STOP IT!)
KA-BLAM
(LOOK OUT!)
(TOO STRONG!)
(NEED HELP!)
(GET AWAY!)
NOW TO FIND THE PRISON.

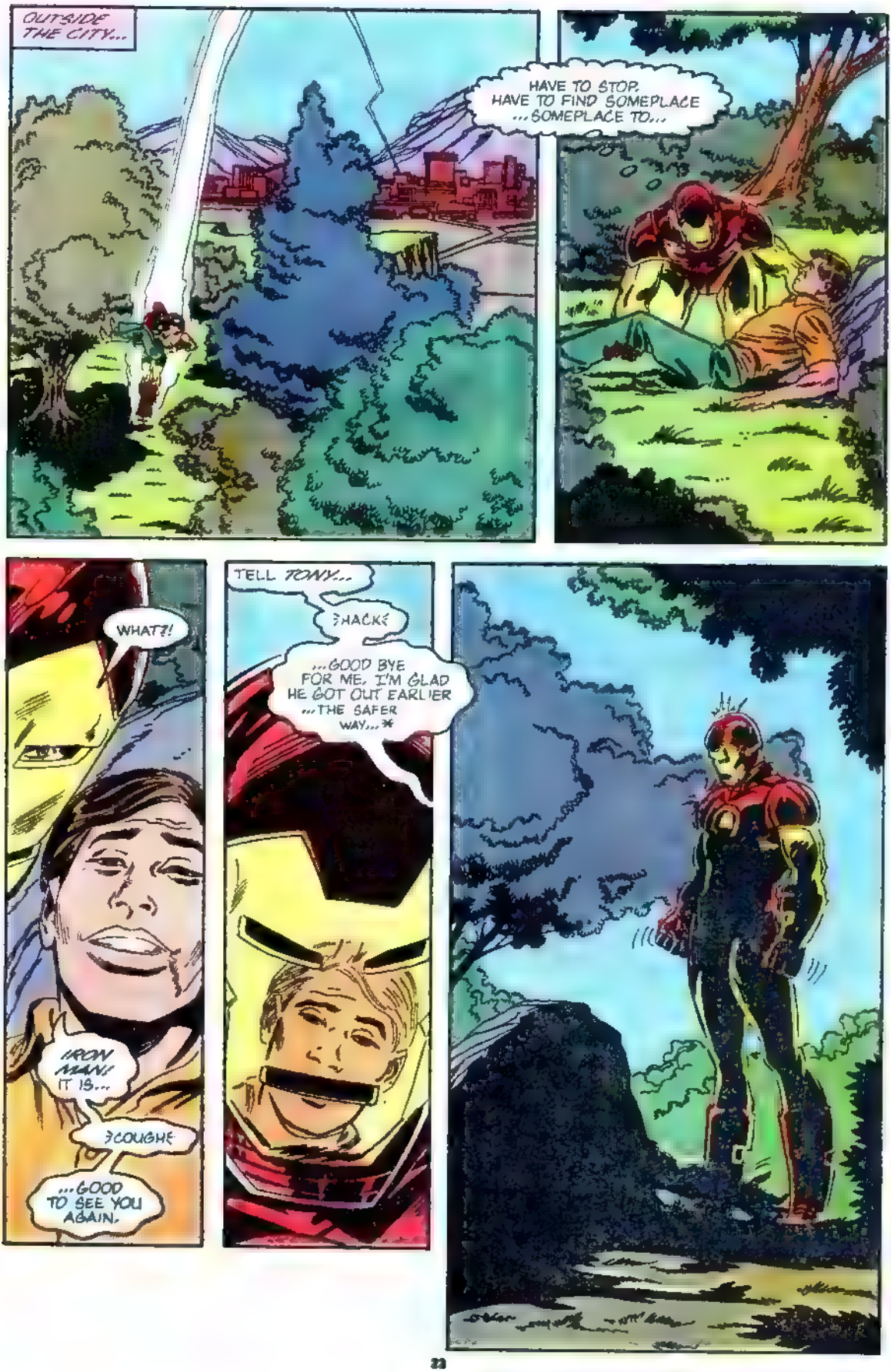
SO MANY LIVES, SENSELESSLY WASTED...
BLAM
KRAK
<THERE HE IS. STOP HIM!>
<NOT THIS TIME,>
CRASH
SKRAK
<IT'S IMPOSSIBLE-- RETREAT!>
<IRON MAN! THAT WAY!
JEHR


(FIRE!)
KROOM
NO!
BUDDA-BUDDA
KRAKATA

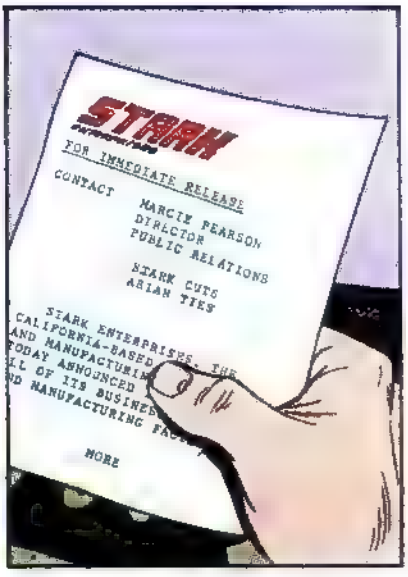
(YOU FILTHY...)


NO...


CA-CRASH

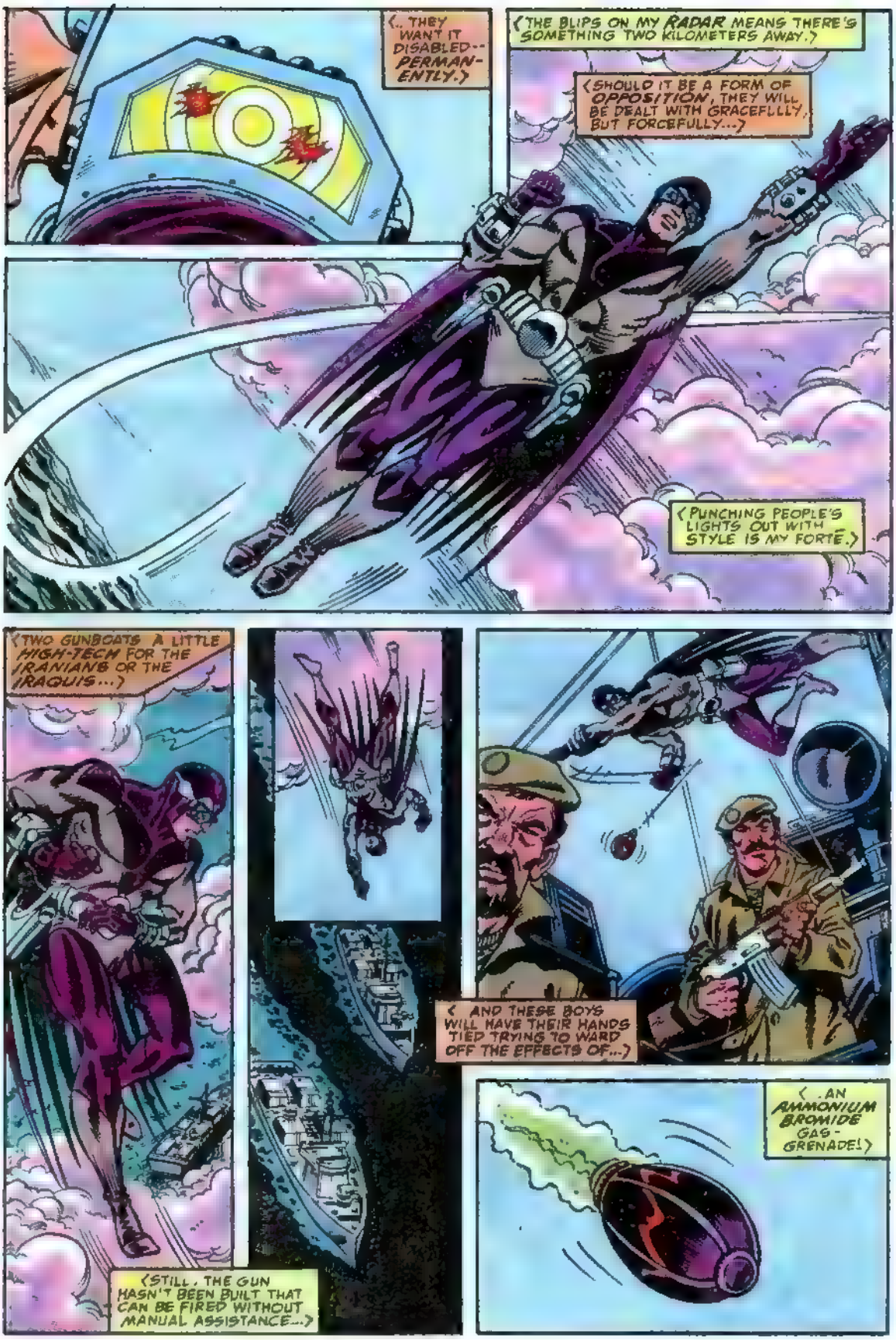

OUTSIDE THE CITY...
HAVE TO STOP. HAVE TO FIND SOMEPLACE ...SOMEPLACE TO...
WHAT?!
IRON MAN! IT IS...
COUGHS
...GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
TELL TONY...
CRACK
...GOOD BYE FOR ME. I'M GLAD HE GOT OUT EARLIER ...THE SAFER WAY...

AN UNNATURALLY QUIET JUNE MORNING AT STARK ENTERPRISES CALIFORNIA HEADQUARTERS...

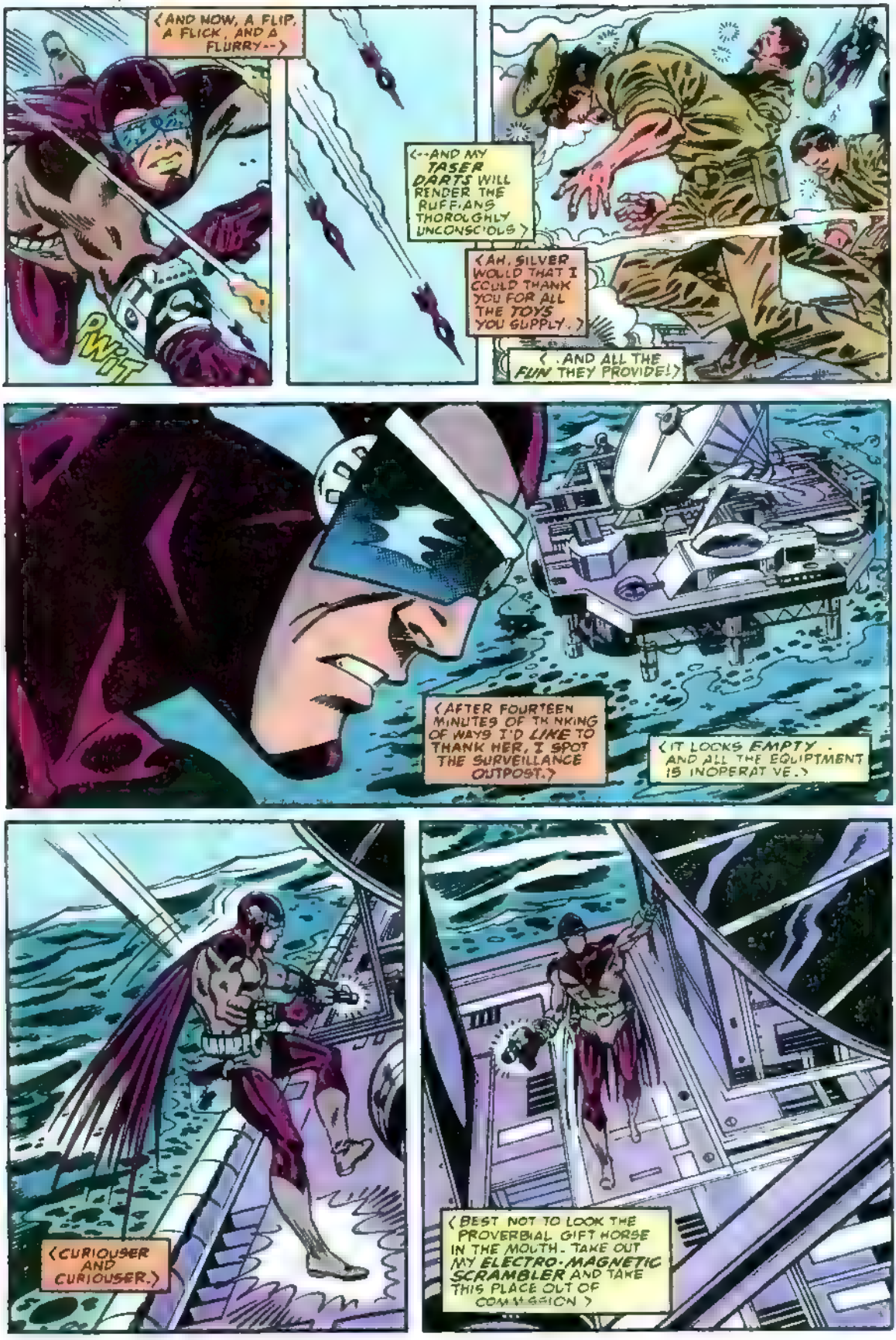

STARK
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT MARCIE PEARSON
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC RELATIONS
STARK CUTS
ASIAN TIES
MORE

C.E.O. ANTHONY STARK STATED THAT NORMAL BUSINESS WOULD NOT RESUME UNTIL THE VIOLENCE ENDED IN THAT STRIFE-TORN ASIAN NATION.
NOT THE END.

(WOULD THAT I COULD BE SIPPING SOME VELVE CLIQUOT AT THE LIDO.)
(THE NIGHTLIFE ON THE CHAMPS-ELYSEES HAS IT ALL OVER THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ ON THE PERSIAN GULF!)
(C'EST LA VIE -- FOR ME, AT LEAST. I HAVE CHOSEN TO PLAY BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE -- THE LIFE OF THE IDLE RICH AND THAT OF THE MERCENARY...)
(I AM.)
Le PEREGRINE
(AND I TEND TO PREFER.)
THE STRAIT APPROACH!
(THAT IS WHY I AM HERE TONIGHT I HAVE ACCEPTED AN ASSIGNMENT FROM SILVER SABLE INTERNATIONAL)
(A MAJOR CORPORATION HAS HAD THEIR SHIPPING LANES HINDERED BY A SURVEILLANCE STATION OPERATED BY THE ARMIES OF THE REGION - TRUCE NOT-WITHSTANDING)


(.. THEY WANT IT DISABLED-- PERMANENTLY.)
(THE BLIPS ON MY RADAR MEANS THERE'S SOMETHING TWO KILOMETERS AWAY.)
(SHOULD IT BE A FORM OF OPPOSITION, THEY WILL BE DEALT WITH GRACEFULLY, BUT FORCEFULLY...)
(PUNCHING PEOPLE'S LIGHTS OUT WITH STYLE IS MY FORTE.)
(TWO GUNBOATS A LITTLE HIGH-TECH FOR THE IRANIANS OR THE IRAQUIS...)
(STILL, THE GUN HASN'T BEEN BUILT THAT CAN BE FIRED WITHOUT MANUAL ASSISTANCE...)
(AND THESE BOYS WILL HAVE THEIR HANDS TIED TRYING TO WARD OFF THE EFFECTS OF...)
(...AN AMMONIUM BROMIDE GAS-GRENADE!)

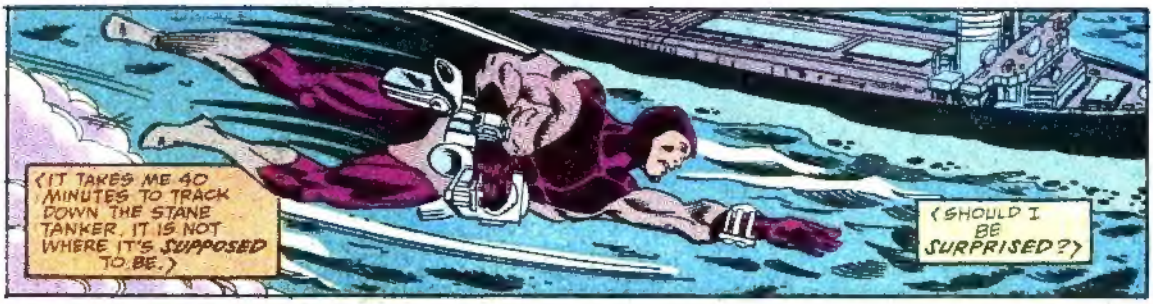
FWOOSH
WHAT THE ?!
:NGGH:
SSSSS
(FAST, EFFECTIVE RELIEF... I HEARTILY RECOMMEND THEM WHEN DEALING WITH SUBVERSIVE FOREIGN MILITANTS.)
(NOW FOR THE OTHER BOAT..)
YOW!
BRRT BRRT
(I HATE GUNFIRE.)
(I WAS PERFECTLY WILLING TO BE A GENTLEMAN ABOUT THE WHOLE THING..)
VIP VIP
(AND THEY GO AND MAKE ME MAD!)
(A NAPALM BOLA SHOULD CALM ME DOWN JUST ENOUGH...)
(AND EXCITE THEM PLENTY!)
Uh-Oh.
PUM TOOM

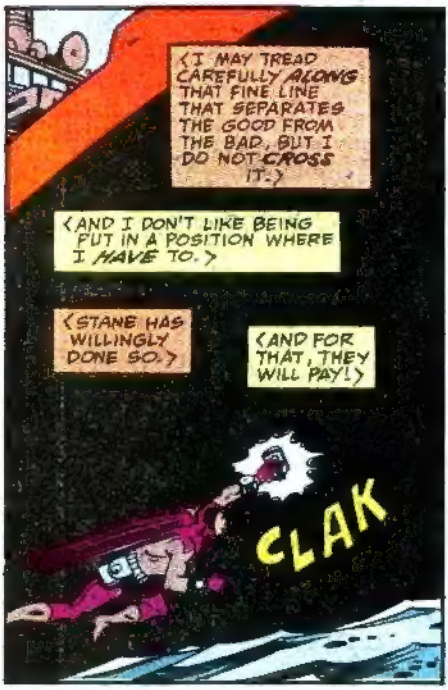

(AND NOW, A FLIP, A FLICK, AND A FLURRY--)
PWIT
(--AND MY TASER DARTS WILL RENDER THE RUFFIANS THOROUGHLY UNCONSCIOUS)
(AH, SILVER WOULD THAT I COULD THANK YOU FOR ALL THE TOYS YOU SUPPLY.)
(...AND ALL THE FUN THEY PROVIDE!)
(AFTER FOURTEEN MINUTES OF THINKING OF WAYS I'D LIKE TO THANK HER, I SPOT THE SURVEILLANCE OUTPOST.)
(IT LOOKS EMPTY. AND ALL THE EQUIPTMENT IS INOPERATIVE.)
(CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER.)
(BEST NOT TO LOOK THE PROVERBIAL GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH. TAKE OUT MY ELECTRO-MAGNETIC SCRAMBLER AND TAKE THIS PLACE OUT OF COMMISSION)

(STILL IT BEGGARS THE QUESTION WHY THE PATROL BOATS IF THERE IS NOTHING HERE TO GUARD?)
(WHICH IN TURN, RAISES THE ALWAYS INAPPROPRIATELY TIMED QUESTION - AM I WALKING INTO--)
(--A TRAP?)
THIS IS THE U.S.S. COCHRANE. YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CEASE FIRE AGREEMENT! PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF!
WUP WUP WUP
THIS IS ADMIRAL ELLIS--PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND SURRENDER!
(DISCRETION, AS THEY SAY, IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR...)
(...AS IS SURRENDER, FOR THAT MATTER.)
DO NOT SHOOT, ADMIRAL, IT'S ONLY LE PEREGRINE! A STUPID HERO IN A STYLAT ON FAR TIGHTER THAN HIS LONGJOHNS!

I ASSURE YOU, MONSIEUR, MY INTENTIONS FOR THIS BASE MUST SURELY COINCIDE WITH YOUR OWN!
OH, REALLY?
U.S
OUI-- I HAVE BEEN CONTRACTED BY A MAJOR CORPORATION TO DISABLE THIS OUTPOST--YOUR INTENTIONS ALSO... N'EST CES PAS?
NOT QUITE DO YOU KNOW THE COMPANY THAT HIRED YOU?
NOW THE OPERATIVES IN MY ORGANIZATION ARE GIVEN ONLY ENOUGH INFORMATION TO KEEP THEM OUT OF TROUBLE.
ISN'T THAT CONVENIENT?
WELL, IT'S STANE INTERNATIONAL, MISTER! AND THEY'VE BEEN DEALING DIRTY WITH BOTH SIDES-- MUNITIONS, HARDWARE, OIL..
THE GUNSHIPS YOU ATTACKED EARLIER WERE MANNED BY AMERICAN UNDERCOVER NAVAL AGENTS.
COMPRENDRE?
OUI
YOU WANT THE STANE TANKER WHOSE PATH I WAS TO CLEAR TO BLAME THEIR STOPPAGE ON THE REGION'S FORCES
THEY, IN TURN WILL TURN TO YOU FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER ALL THEIR MEANS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED AND YOU SHALL HAVE THE TANKER BY THE HORNS, SO TO SPEAK
AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THEY DIDN'T WANT, OR ELSE THEY WOULDN'T HAVE HIRED YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE.

TUMP
PERHAPS, ADMIRAL...
...BUT HAVING DONE SO, THEY WILL REGRET IT!
KRAK
NOW PERMIT ME AN INTEGRAL PART OF MY CLOTHING...
...SURELY YOU DON'T WANT MY BRITCHES DROOPING AS I ESCAPE, NON?
KRASH
BLOW 'IM AWAY!!
(SURELY I COULD FLY IN CIRCLES AND ALLOW THEM TO DO MY JOB FOR ME...)
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
(THE AMERICANS HAVE EVER FAVORED FORCE OVER FINESSE--)
(WHILE THE FRENCH--)
BUM BOOM
(OH, FORGET IT!)
(IT'S HYPOCRITICAL TO BE GALLANT WHILE TOSSING THERMITE GRENADES AROUND)
(NOW FOR MY ERSTWHILE EMPLOYERS...)


〈IT TAKES ME 40 MINUTES TO TRACK DOWN THE STANE TANKER. IT IS NOT WHERE IT'S *SUPPOSED* TO BE.〉
〈SHOULD I BE *SURPRISED*?〉


〈I MAY TREAD CAREFULLY *ALONG* THAT FINE LINE THAT SEPARATES THE GOOD FROM THE BAD, BUT I DO NOT *CROSS* IT.〉
〈AND I DON'T LIKE BEING PUT IN A POSITION WHERE I *HAVE* TO.〉
〈STANE HAS WILLINGLY DONE SO.〉
〈AND FOR THAT, THEY WILL PAY!〉
CLAK

〈LE PEREGRINE, WE ARE *INDEBTED* TO YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND FREE-MARKET ENTERPRIZE!
MERCI BEAUCOUP.

〈WHAT CAN WE DO TO SHOW OUR *GRATITUDE*?〉
YOU CAN GET YOUR ENTIRE CREW *OFF* THIS SHIP IN UNDER *FIFTEEN* MINUTES.〉

〈THAT IS HOW LONG YOU HAVE UNTIL THE *EXPLOSIVE* I HAVE PLACED ON YOUR *HULL* MAKES YOUR THANKS MOOT.〉
〈THEY WILL EASILY AVOID INJURY.〉

〈WOULD THAT *I* COULD AVOID THE SAME WHEN SILVER SABLE LEARNS OF MY ACTIONS.〉
〈STILL, SHE IS HONORABLE ENOUGH TO SEE THAT I WAS PLACED IN AN *UNTENABLE* POSITION.〉
〈AND WHEN YOU COME RIGHT DOWN TO IT, I *DID* COMPLETE MY ASSIGNMENT -- I DID *ERADICATE* THE STATION.〉

〈I JUST DECIDED TO DO IT WITH A LITTLE *EXTRA* PANACHE!〉
PWOOM
END.

MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Attention correspondents. All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

TERRY KAVANAGH
Editor

KELLY CORVESE
Assistant Editor

Dear Presenters,

Issue #'s 42 and 43 of MCP had a nice balance of stories. Issue #42 had the usual mutant lead feature (which I have learned to live with), but more on that later.

Wonder Man continues to play an unusual role as the unwitting pawn of the Enchantress. I'm not quite sure why this multi-part story is billed as a Wonder Man series though, it might have been better if it was billed as an Enchantress storyline. The story does appear to be from her point of view. I think it is about time villains are given a spotlight in this title. Experimentation is part of what makes this series so interesting. The more you experiment, the more exciting the title becomes. Sure, you may fall flat on your faces from time to time but the right mix of seasoned pros, along with newer talent gives this book its spice of life feel. And I'm not just talking about creative talent either. The same applies to seasoned comic characters as well as ones that have been around for a while but in comic limbo.

The Iron Man story in #43 was nothing but a rehash of a tired theme, that of Iron Man being trashed and then remodifying his armor.

The Siryn story, on the other hand, was a true diamond in the rough. Writer Scott Lobdell continues to impress me and I hope he continues to bring us the adventures of lesser used charcters. Siryn was, up until this point, a throw-away character. Thanks to Scott's writing, Siryn has piqued my interest enough that I hope we will see more of her, both in the pages of MCP and elsewhere in the Marvel universe.

Back to issue #42, I do miss Nicieza's work from PSI-FORCE and I hope that he comes up with a regular writing assignment sometime soon. Union Jack was a well thought out story with excellent artwork. (The artwork just didn't look like Dwyer's usual work for some reason).

The Daughters of the Dragon storyline was another superbly crafted work of literature. The Siryn, Union Jack, and Daughters storylines are exactly the type of stories that keep me coming back time and time again. Some of these characters may be new to younger readers, but to long time readers like myself, well, it is refreshing to see some old friends from long ago. Marvel is rich in history, and like history, many unsung heroes have graced the pages of Marvel Comics in the past 25 years. Bringing back past heroes with updated adventures is the backbone of this title.

"We don't plan to do a Punisher series here since he already has two books of his own." These are the editor's words from the letters page of issue #43 when a reader asked for a regular Punisher series in the pages of MCP. I couldn't agree with you more. Unfortunately, these words may come back to haunt you. I had learned several weeks ago that Wolverine will become the permanent feature in the pages of MCP. By your own admission, this is all wrong. Use Wolverine from time to time if you must, but placing anyone in a permanent position in the pages of MCP goes against the entire concept of this title. Wolverine has to be one of the most overused characters in the Marvel universe and no one (with few exceptions) is breaking any new ground with the character. There are too many good stories, based upon hundreds of characters, just waiting to be told for one-quarter of this book to be mired down with a regular feature.

I hope that I can convince the powers to be that this title needs to remain an anthology title featuring a continuous rotation of characters and concepts. I would ask you to put the queston to your readers but it seems as if the decision is already made. If it's not too late, please re-evaluate your position. Wolverine may sell books, but in the case of MCP he willl drag this book down to the ranks of mediocrity.

As always, keep on entertaining and I will keep on reading...and writing.

Charles S. Novinskie
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

We appreciate you voicing your opinion, Charles. Installing Wolverine in the first slot seems to have sparked a lot of controversy. Let's hear what others have to say about it...

Dear Terry,

Wow! Super!...I've been reading MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS since issue #35. Believe me they've been the best issues I've read in a very long time. I think this book is one of the best titles yet. My favorite issues were from #38 to #43 so far. Why? Because of Wolverine, of course! He's my favorite character in the Marvel Universe.

Now, to the point. I've just finished reading MCP #43 and I think it was marvelous! Since this is the first time I'm writing to you guys, I just want to say that your Wolverine storyline is great! When I went in the store, my first glance was at the cover art, and I didn't hesitate to put down my buck-twenty-five and buy it. My compliments to Erik Larsen. On a scale of one to ten, I'd give your Wonder Man storyline a seven . Your Iron Man eight-pager was fabulous. Thumbs down for the Siryn storyline, although it's the first time I'm reading about this character. Oh, one more thing. If Spider-Man isn't a mutant, how come in all this time he isn't dead? Oh, and another thing. Can you print a story in your great comic where Wolvie fights Sabretooth?

That's all for now! Until Wolverine shoots webs and climbs walls, and Spider-Man has claws and a healing factor, Make Mine Marvel!

Nick Yusipidi
(Address withheld by request)

Come on, Nick, we did want some positive reactions to the Wolverine story, but you've gone a little too far! It's pretty doubtful that you'll ever see Wolverine fighting Sabretooth in these pages. It's kinda been done quite a few times already in Bob Harras's X-MEN book. Now don't get us wrong, we like a good Wolverine/Sabretooth scrap as much as the next guy, but we feel there are more untold Wolverine stories to show!

Dear Marvel,

Issue #43 was spectacular. All the stories were great. I hope to see more Wolverine stories like this, and I hope to see future stories where Wolverine and Spider-Man team up. I would be willing to pay anything to see that. I'm also really looking forward to this Weapon-X story in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. When will it be released?

Neil Sahota
3861 Wisteria
Seal Beach, CA 90740

Glad you like Wolverine, Neil. Now let us know what you thought of the Spidey/Wolvie team-up in MCP #48-50. As for the "Weapon X" saga that you want to see, it's coming up very shortly--definitely this year! How about that?!

Lè PEREGRINE
CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO ARMIES!
IRON MAN
RESPONDS TO A THREAT TORN DIRECTLY FROM TODAY'S HEADLINES!
COMET MAN
A FAMILY REUNION GONE AWRY!